





“I created the LRA to bring the entire state into this recovery, to avoid duplication and increase efficiency, to put aside partisanship and politics.

This inclusive formula is working, and it will continue to work.”

--Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco

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PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

THIS REPORT IS REQUIRED UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER KBB 2005-63 TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON LRA ACTIVITIES AND RECOVERY EFFORTS TO THE GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATURE AND PUBLIC. THE FOCUS OF THIS INITIAL REPORT IS ON THE CREATION, ORGANIZATION AND PRIORITIES OF THE LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY. MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE. THIS UPDATE OUTLINES THE FOCUS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF WORK AND DISCUSSES THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF LOUISIANA'S RECOVERY EFFORTS.

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A LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR



Three months ago, I created the Louisiana Recovery Authority and appointed its board of bold, innovative leaders to push the recovery forward.

I charged the LRA with helping to create a recovery and rebuilding plan that will benefit the entire state -- to reach for new ideas, forget old limits, and speak on behalf of all Louisianans. I asked the LRA to coordinate recovery efforts in ways that avoided duplication and increased efficiency, to not simply re-create what the storms destroyed, but to make the new Louisiana safer, stronger, and smarter than ever before. I am pleased with the progress.

Through the leadership of the LRA, the state has worked tirelessly during these past three months to carry out this vision. It has helped coordinate the short-term initiatives of state agencies and drive the long-term recovery to rebuild.

The LRA has:

- Secured federal dollars and assistance
- Supplied considerable leadership on the establishment of statewide building codes
- Tied federal dollars to parish adoption of flood elevation guidelines
- Led the rebuilding effort, working with local governments and planners to build a better future for communities throughout South Louisiana, and
- Created ways to re-connect evacuees with their beloved Louisiana

The Legislature is an important partner in this process as we invest dollars in Louisiana's recovery. I value legislators' input. Four legislative leaders have been active members of the LRA board and many others serve on task forces.

As you will see in the first quarterly report, we have made solid progress over the past three months. I thank the LRA board members for their service, and I look forward to working with them, the Legislature and the citizens of Louisiana as we continue our work to ensure that all of Louisiana's sons and daughters can return to sound homes, quality jobs and revived neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Kathleen Babineaux Blanco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



“Speak with one voice” was the approach that Governor Kathleen Blanco asked us to use when she created the LRA. Our Board takes that mission seriously because we realize we are not merely speaking for the state of Louisiana, but we’re giving voice to the hopes of its people.

With the start of a new school semester, more students and their families have returned to their communities. More people are re-opening businesses, assessing their options and taking steps to rebuild. From Calcasieu to St. Bernard they are striving to resurrect life as they knew it before the hurricanes.

It is the LRA’s responsibility to assist in giving voice and support to their concerns and aspirations, to speak for those scattered throughout the nation, aching to return home, and to help them find opportunity where they once saw only devastation.

As leaders of the state’s recovery, it is up to our board to coordinate efforts with governments at all levels and to make sure that when Louisiana speaks to the world, it speaks about collective needs and intentions. Our 26-member LRA board takes this mission to heart and has forged partnerships with cities and parish governments in shaping state and federal initiatives.

Louisiana will rebound from hurricanes Katrina and Rita. I am confident about this. I see the determination of its people and am inspired daily by their courage. As president of Xavier University of Louisiana, I have been moved by students returning to their beloved New Orleans. After enrolling in colleges and universities elsewhere in the fall, they came back with hope and commitment, determined to shape a new city.

We can all learn from their spirit and from that of many other Louisiana residents who are determined to build a better life in South Louisiana. Indeed, it is what we all are committed to do.

Sincerely,



Norman C. Francis
Chairman
Louisiana Recovery Authority

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Louisiana Recovery Authority has worked since October to build a safer, stronger, smarter South Louisiana.

It pulled together teams from throughout state government to identify short-term priorities and develop immediate solutions. Inter-agency teams tackled issues as diverse as debris removal, temporary housing and school openings. The work described in this quarterly report resulted in solutions that brought workers back to New Orleans and trained police for storm-ravaged communities.

At the same time, task forces led by LRA board members, have been developing plans to rebuild South Louisiana in the long-term. The task-forces, consisting of legislators, community members, industry and non-profit leaders, explore solutions that will help rebuild in ways that better serve Louisiana people. Descriptions of each of the task forces and their priorities are contained in this report.

For LRA Board members, “safer, stronger, smarter” is the guiding principle for all issues of hurricane recovery. Board members have embraced the principle in helping pass legislation for statewide building codes and levee consolidation, tying federal dollars to safe rebuilding, advising local governments in the use of rebuilding dollars, and working with Congress to obtain rebuilding aid. They also are working closely with residents of towns and cities throughout South Louisiana to develop a long-term regional vision of recovery that is true to the aspirations of communities.

Louisiana’s recovery has a long way to go, but as you can see from this report, much progress has been made. The LRA will continue to work with Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, the Legislature, various state agencies, local governments, residents and other partners to rebuild in ways that are better than before and to communicate this progress to the world.

Our job is to make it possible for all Louisiana residents to return. Working with our partners we will help communities rebuild and achieve their dreams for the future.

Sincerely,



Andy Kopplin
Executive Director
Louisiana Recovery Authority



HURRICANE IMPACT

Hurricane Katrina: August 29, 2005

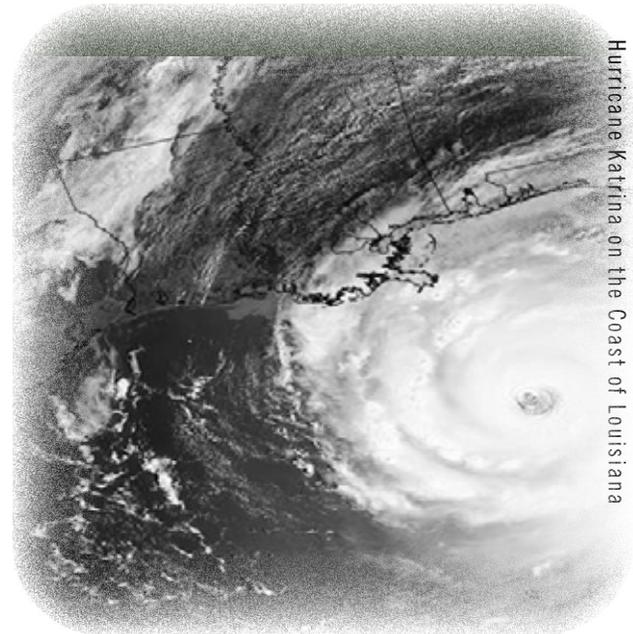
Hurricane Rita: September 24, 2005

IMPACT

- Over 1,100 lives lost
- Over 785,000 residents displaced
- Over 215,000 homes destroyed
- Over 835 schools damaged
- Over 40 schools destroyed
- Over 18,700 businesses destroyed
- Over 220,000 jobs lost
- Over 100 square miles of wetland destroyed by storm surge

LOSSES

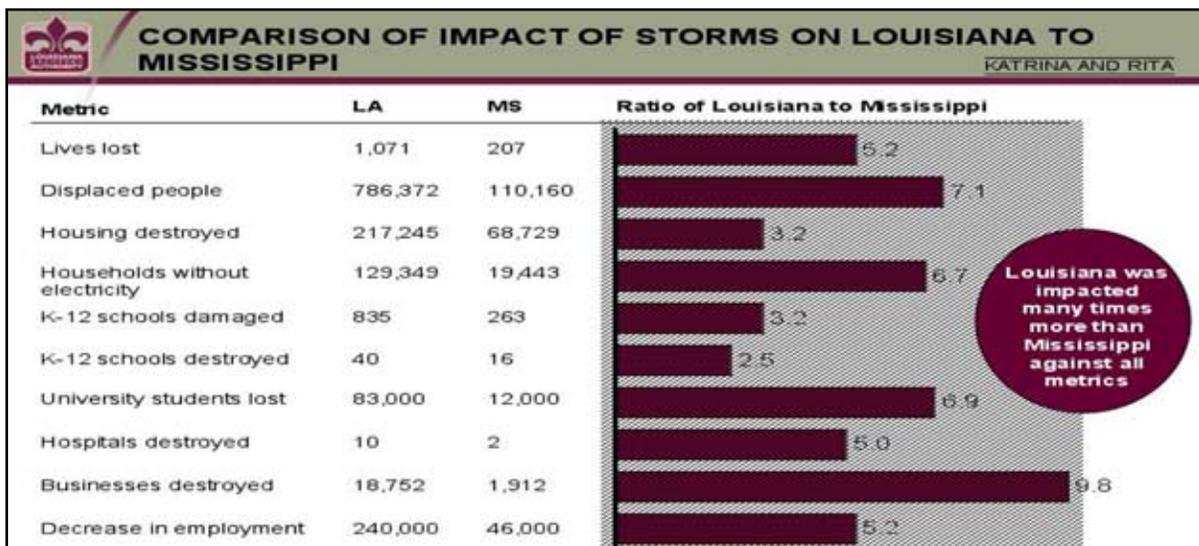
- Temporary relief services..... \$15 to \$20 billion
- Property and infrastructure..... \$75 to 100 billion
- Economic losses..... \$50 to 70 billion
- Government revenue losses..... \$8 to 10 billion



Hurricane Katrina on the Coast of Louisiana

Creation of the Louisiana Recovery Authority

As a result of the unprecedented levels of devastation and destruction caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and in an effort to efficiently and effectively manage the resources that will be committed to the rebuilding and redevelopment of these areas, Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco created the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) through Executive Order No. KBB 2005-63 on October 17, 2005. The LRA is led by a 26-member board appointed by the governor and is charged with working across all levels of government, guided by the Governor's vision and in support of local communities, to develop and realize a comprehensive long-term vision for a rebuilt and renewed Louisiana. In addition, the speaker and speaker pro tempore of the Louisiana House of Representatives and the president and president pro tempore of the Louisiana Senate serve as ex-officio members on the LRA Board. For more information about the organization and structure of the LRA, please see www.lra.louisiana.gov.





LRA'S MISSION AND PRIORITIES...

SAFER, STRONGER, SMARTER,

The mission of the LRA is to help ensure that the State of Louisiana rebuilds in a way that makes residents and institutions safer, stronger, and smarter than ever before. At the same time, the LRA is committed to preserving Louisiana's rich heritage and culture and rebuilding in a way that is true to the aspirations of local communities. The LRA envisions a Louisiana that is secured against catastrophic loss; rebuilt by citizens, families and entrepreneurs; powered by strong, growing businesses; enabled by innovative, high-performing schools; and governed by accountable, efficient and effective government.

The LRA has worked diligently during the first quarter to begin laying the groundwork for the establishment of a comprehensive, long-term plan for the rebuilding of Louisiana that will carry out this mission. The LRA has focused on four main priorities:

- **Securing funding and other resources,**
- **Establishing principles and policies for redevelopment,**
- **Leading long-term community and regional planning efforts,**
- **Ensuring transparency and accountability.**

I. SECURING FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES

Speaking with One Voice

In its first step toward securing federal funding, the LRA approved a list of federal priorities for recovery at its first meeting. The federal priorities endorsed by the LRA Board are:

- 1) Commit and fully fund comprehensive levee protection and coastal restoration
- 2) Provide immediate financial relief and assistance for business recovery
- 3) Provide tax incentives for businesses and individuals to return and rebuild
- 4) Make required changes in the Stafford Act to provide the appropriate support to state and local governments for disasters of extraordinary magnitude
- 5) Provide critical financial stability to local and municipal governments in affected areas
- 6) Maintain Medicaid safety net for evacuee families and their communities in Louisiana and across the country
- 7) Support the redevelopment of educational institutions affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita
- 8) Provide appropriate funding to address immediate and future transportation infrastructure needs to support South Louisiana

In an effort to make the case for the need for federal funds, the LRA has worked to gather accurate, reliable data that shows the real impact of the storms on the people, businesses, governments and economy of Louisiana. This information allows the LRA to provide a true picture of Louisiana's need for assistance. For an overview of the data presented by the LRA, please see Appendix 1.

Funding Successes

Gulf Coast Aid Package: The LRA worked with Louisiana's Congressional delegation and others to successfully lobby for the passage of the \$29 billion Gulf Coast Aid Package. This package will provide much-needed initial funding for hurricane recovery, including:

- \$11.5 billion in Community Development Block Grants (\$6.2 billion for Louisiana) to spur economic development and aid homeowners.
- \$4.4 billion for storm-related Defense Department expenses and facility damage.
- \$2.9 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers for levee-related costs, including repairing existing levees beyond pre-Katrina conditions and completing levee systems previously authorized but not funded, plus \$8 million for developing a coastal protection plan for the state.
- \$2.8 billion to repair damaged roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure.
- \$1.6 billion for education, including \$645 million for schools that took in students, \$750 million for schools affected by the hurricanes and
- \$200 million for higher education.
- \$125 million for Employment and Training Administration for job training.
- \$550 million to the Social Services Block Grant for human and social services needs.



Gulf Opportunity Zone Act: The LRA also worked to assist in the passage of the \$8.7 billion Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005, which aims to boost the small business sector and revive the spirit of entrepreneurship along the Gulf Coast by:

- Providing a 50-percent bonus depreciation for businesses that invest in new equipment and new structures;
- Allowing additional issuance of \$7.3 billion in tax-exempt private activity bonds;
- Doubling small business expensing from \$100,000 to \$200,000 for investments in new equipment;
- Expanding the amount of available low-income housing tax credits to \$56 million per year for three years, totaling \$168 million; and
- Doubling Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Credits for students attending colleges and graduate schools in the Gulf Opportunity Zone.

“WE HAVE ESTABLISHED GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ORGANIZATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTHEAST AND SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA....WE HAVE PLEDGED TO WORK TOGETHER WITH A COMMON VISION, AND THAT’S WHAT WE’LL DO.”
-- LRA VICE CHAIR WALTER ISSAACSON, TESTIFYING BEFORE A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE, NOV. 17, 2005

Support Foundation: In addition to working to secure these financial aid packages, the LRA Board endorsed the creation of a Support Organization Foundation. The LRA Fund, established at the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, will provide external resources and support for the LRA's efforts. A separate charitable organization is being created called the LRA Support Foundation. For more information, please see www.lrasupportfoundation.org.

2006 GOALS: The LRA will focus on securing Louisiana's fair share of Outer Continental Shelf revenues for coastal protection and obtaining passage of the Baker Bill, HR 4100, to assist homeowner and commercial property owners with their losses and to rebuild our neighborhoods and communities in systematic ways. The LRA was successful in helping to get unanimous support from the entire Louisiana delegation as well as New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin for the Baker Bill by December 2005, one of Louisiana's strongest and clearest expressions of speaking with one voice.

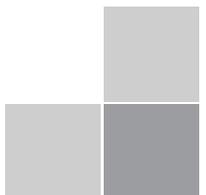
II. ESTABLISHING PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Safer, Stronger, Smarter

When developing principles and policies for rebuilding, there are many factors to consider, and the Louisiana Recovery Authority has heard from many experts and interested parties about what they believe to be the most important. Through all this information, three themes emerged as the most critical pieces to any long-term strategy—Safer, Stronger and Smarter. This philosophy continues to guide all LRA decisions.

REBUILDING SAFER is all about making sure that Louisiana is not vulnerable to future disasters. It’s about levees, coastal restoration, hazard mitigation plans, and sound and secure buildings that are built to the highest standards. Louisiana must be safe. Our citizens deserve it, our communities require it, and our commitment to put our rebuilding dollars to the best use possible demands it. In order to build a safer Louisiana, the LRA:

- Aggressively supported the adoption of statewide minimum building codes,
- Pushed to secure federal funds to rebuild levees beyond pre-Katrina strength,
- Tied the ability to receive mitigation dollars to local adoption of FEMA flood elevation requirements,
- Prioritized funding for mitigation projects that reduce risk from future disasters, and
- Required that state buildings be located where they can be safe – with mitigation plans for added protection.



REBUILDING STRONGER is about a Louisiana where investments lead to job growth. It's about investing dollars in the economy in a way that will lead to an improved quality of life for all people. It's about jobs; it's about greater opportunity. In order to build a stronger Louisiana, the LRA:

- Aimed investments at economic growth, job creation and wealth creation,
- Endorsed \$100 million of CDBG funds for a Small Business Bridge Loan program,
- Endorsed the leveraging of \$250 million of CDBG funds to serve as the match for FEMA dollars to repair and replace state and local government facilities,
- Leveraged private and public dollars to generate a positive return on investment,
- Supported plans to enable homeowners to protect equity investments in their homes as they rebuild,
- Promoted programs that raise the level of home ownership throughout the state, and
- Prioritized mixed income neighborhoods, with easily-accessed public services aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty.

REBUILDING SMARTER is about better service delivery and smarter communities. It's about creating a system of neighborhoods and communities that supports our citizens and allows them to thrive. It's about a state of the art public infrastructure—both a hard and a soft infrastructure-- that provides the best service at the lowest cost. In order to build a smarter Louisiana, the LRA:

- Required that rebuilt community assets (housing, hospitals, schools) reflect best thinking in community design and service delivery models,
- Promoted a reorganized system of levee boards to remove politics, include people of all parishes in the region, and further ensure the safety of those who depend on levees for safety,
- Ensured that infrastructure is built to support future, not past, community needs – based on latest demographic trends and projections, and
- Supported the use of new technologies to enable most effective and efficient service delivery (e.g., remote, mobile, etc.).

AIA/APA Principles for Rebuilding

The LRA secured the collaboration of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the American Planning Association (APA) to hold the Louisiana Recovery and Rebuilding Conference November 10-12, 2005. This conference brought together more than 650 citizens, community leaders, architects, planners, and engineers to recommend a set of principles to guide the rebuilding of South Louisiana, which were adopted at the December 16, 2005 LRA Board meeting. In keeping with the LRA's focus, the following principles address the need for rebuilding safer, stronger and smarter:

1. Create infrastructure that supports recovery by restoring confidence, enhancing quality of life, and withstanding future disasters.
2. Promote economic growth that benefits everyone.
3. Provide public services that enhance quality of life for everyone.
4. Pursue policies that promote a healthy environment and healthy people.
5. Plan and design communities that advance livability.

For further information on the AIA/APA conference findings, please see <http://lrrc.aia.org>



Louisiana Recovery & Rebuilding Conference
November 10-12, 2005

“BUT AMID ALL THE HEARTACHE-- THE STILL-RAW FEELINGS CAN LEAD TO TEARS IN AN INSTANT-- A FEW TINY RAYS OF WINTER SUN ARE SLIPPING THROUGH. NEWLY CREATED INSTITUTIONS LIKE THE LOUISIANA FAMILY RECOVERY CORPS AND THE LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY ARE BEGINNING TO CUT THROUGH THE CHAOS TO SUPERVISE BETTER AND PLAN RATIONALLY.”

--JONATHAN ALTER, *NEWSWEEK*, DECEMBER 26, 2005



HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

SAFER, STRONGER, SMARTER

What is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program?

Authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), provides grants to States, who in turn provide funds to eligible applicants, to implement measures to address long-term community safety after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the program is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

How much money is available in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program?

The amount of funding available for the HMGP under a particular disaster declaration is limited. The program may provide a State with up to 7.5% of the total disaster grants awarded by FEMA. FEMA can fund up to 75% of the eligible costs of each project, and the sub-grantee must provide a 25% match. It is estimated that approximately \$1.5-2 billion will be available under HMGP for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

What actions has the LRA taken regarding HMGP?

The Governor has charged the LRA with responsibility for the prioritization of HMGP projects, and the LRA has taken four major actions regarding HMGP:

1. The LRA authorized the release of \$250 million that had been approved by the Legislature to help parishes prevent damage from future disasters by directing the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (OSHEP) to distribute the first hazard mitigation funding available after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to parish governments.

According to the formula LRA approved:

- \$100 million will be dedicated to elevate and acquire severe repetitive loss properties.
 - \$136 million for other cost-effective acquisition or elevation projects, or for the retrofit of critical facilities.
 - \$14 million for mitigation planning and education. (11.11.05)
2. The LRA passed a resolution aimed at providing incentives for communities and parishes to adopt the most up-to-date flood guidance as part of their floodplain management ordinances, by agreeing to only provide HMGP funding in those parishes that adopt and enforce FEMA's Flood Advisory Elevation guidance in the construction or reconstruction of all home, businesses, and other structures in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. (12.16.05)
 3. The LRA determined overall priorities for the use of HMGP funds that will serve as a tool for evaluating projects for funding. (12.16.05)
 4. The LRA also directed OHSEP to prepare an application to HMGP for funds for a five-year hazard mitigation outreach and education campaign aimed at educating Louisiana citizens, businesses and units of government about the best use of mitigation dollars. (12.16.05)

For further information, see
www.lra.louisiana.gov/haz_mit.html

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

SAFER, STRONGER, SMARTER



How much funding is available under CDBG?

As part of the Gulf Coast Aid Package, \$11.5 billion was made available for states suffering from hurricanes. Louisiana was allocated 54% or \$6.2 billion of those funds.

What is the process for CDBG funding approval?

Cabinet agencies or other approved entities will submit proposals to LRA task forces for consideration. The LRA Board will review task force recommendations on CDBG proposals and forward approved proposals to the Governor. The Governor will submit LRA-approved proposals to the Legislature for their approval. Upon approval of the Legislature, the state will submit CDBG proposal details to HUD for final approval.

How will the LRA use CDBG funding?

The Governor has made housing her highest priority, and the LRA has already begun examining ways to maximize resources by creatively leveraging these dollars to help the largest number of people in three key areas:

<p>HOUSING Accelerate the repair and rebuilding of the state's permanent housing stock and multi-family rental units</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote affordable and mixed affordable/market rate developments and neighborhoods that allow all citizens to return home • Preserve and advance home ownership by helping home owners repair, rebuild, or if necessary, relocate • Recognize the need for and compliance with safety standards • Leverage homeowners' willingness to reinvest
<p>INFRASTRUCTURE Rebuild infrastructure required to significantly improve the state's long-term productivity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help communities replace and repair local infrastructure • Develop new, highly efficient energy and communications infrastructure with reliability benchmarks • Drive long-term productivity improvements • Improve connectedness among communities • Make investments into transformative projects that affect the state's long-term recovery
<p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Provide short-term capital assistance and invest for long-term recovery and growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of businesses that create jobs, opportunity and wealth and attract citizens to return • Support restoration of destroyed or damaged commercial properties • Target capital assistance programs for small business and targeted industries • Develop economic development programs for long-term economic recovery

What funds have been allocated so far?

The LRA has recommended to the Governor and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget has approved the use of CDBG dollars as follows:

- \$100 million for an immediate continuation and expansion of Louisiana Economic Development's Bridge Loan Program,
- \$150 million available to match FEMA funding for the repair and reconstruction of state buildings according to the prioritization program developed by the Office of Facility Planning and Control and in accordance with the best practices for service delivery as recommended by the LRA and in accordance with community input, and
- \$100 million available to local governments to match FEMA funding for emergency infrastructure projects, provided that these local governments have:
 - * adopted the latest base flood elevation guidance,
 - * implemented or are in the process of implementing the new statewide building codes,
 - * are completing projects that have been recommended through a broad community planning process, and
 - * are following the best design for delivery of services in light of population shifts.



Immediate Actions

The LRA was created to focus on assuring that action would be taken to address both short-term and long-term recovery needs. During the immediate aftermath of the storms, Governor Blanco organized her cabinet into nine recovery teams in the areas of: economic and workforce development, public safety, infrastructure and transportation, housing, environmental, public health and healthcare, human services, education and levees & coastal restoration. These recovery teams not only supported the short-term priorities that required immediate action, but as time went on, the LRA asked that they recommend priorities in support of the long-term planning efforts of the LRA task forces.

In an effort to coordinate with the cabinet recovery teams, the LRA staff holds strategy sessions twice a week with Cabinet members and staff to establish immediate priorities, identify obstacles and collaborate across state agencies to take action to address those challenges. Some examples of early collaborative successes include:

- The Department of Transportation and Development partnered with the Department of Labor to create the LA Swift program: a bus line that runs from Baton Rouge to New Orleans daily to bring displaced workers to job sites in New Orleans. Currently LA Swift transports approximately 500 persons per day between the two cities, and the program is due to expand in February.
- The Workforce Commission, Department of Labor and Louisiana Community and Technical College System collaborated to identify high-demand recovery occupations and establish funding for training programs in those areas.
- Multiple agencies collaborated to provide social, medical and job services to temporary housing locations established by FEMA.
- The Department of Health and Hospitals collaborated with the Louisiana State Police to streamline hurricane victim identification through DNA matches.
- State agencies submitted plans to co-locate services in areas to be rebuilt to provide added convenience to citizens and reduce costs.
- The Housing recovery team collaborated with Louisiana Economic Development to prioritize temporary housing for employees at or near worksites.



APPROXIMATELY 40,000 RIDERS SERVED SINCE OCTOBER 31, 2005

158 RIDERS ON DAY 1

AVERAGE OF 500 RIDERS PER WORKDAY

ADDING 3 NEW STOPS ON FEBRUARY 5, 2006

Proactive Policy Development for the Future

The LRA Board established task forces to provide guidance and planning for the long-term recovery in several issue areas. Each task force or subcommittee is led by an LRA board member that works closely to support the state agency recovery teams in taking action to address recovery challenges in their respective areas. The task forces, which include several legislators and a broad-based group of decision makers, work to identify high priority areas that require tough decisions. A summary of the priorities identified during the first quarter for each of these task forces as well as the actions of the state agencies, who serve on the corresponding recovery teams, to address these priorities can be found on the following pages.

“I AM TERRIBLY IMPRESSED WITH THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE LRA. YOUR DELIBERATION, YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS, YOUR BIAS FOR ACTION... I THINK THAT’S TERRIBLY IMPORTANT. YOU’RE A MODEL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FOR OTHER AMERICANS TO WATCH DEMOCRACY IN ACTION.”

**--DON POWELL
LRA BOARD MEETING**



COASTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Long-Term Priorities

Coastal protection, which is the highest priority of the LRA, is focused on protecting South Louisiana from future hurricanes through a combination of levee systems and coastal wetland restoration. Integration of these two efforts into a single function in order to best protect the state is critical to the success of the rebuilding effort. Priorities within this area are:

- Integration of comprehensive hurricane protection and coastal restoration strategy
- State leadership role for levee system
- Appropriate statewide hurricane protection system
- Restoration of sustainable coastal wetlands

Challenges

In order to create a truly integrated plan for the state's coastal protection system, it is necessary to integrate the administrative and decision-making functions. Providing adequate, sustainable protection to the state will require securing a share of OCS oil and gas revenues, or federal assistance.

- Secure a fair share of OCS oil and gas revenues or federal funding for coastal protection initiatives;
- Develop a master plan for comprehensive hurricane protection and coastal restoration;
- Guide CPRA in developing a coastal protection plan that is well-integrated with the overall rebuilding effort.

Recovery Team Actions

Department of Natural Resources, Department of Transportation and Development

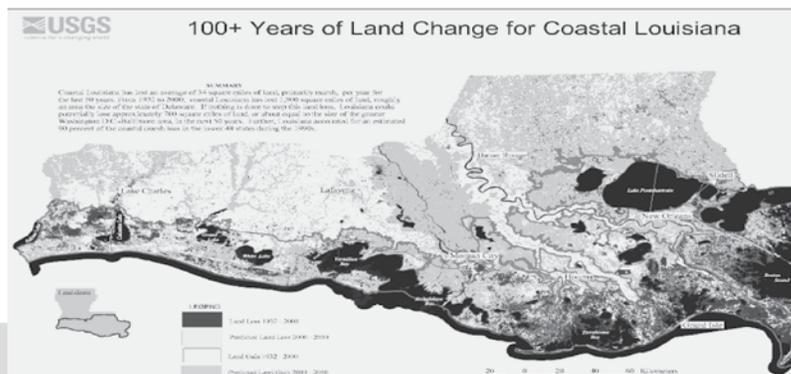
During the special session of the Legislature, legislation was passed creating the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), a single state body with responsibility for hurricane protection levees and coastal restoration. This legislation and the need for integration of hurricane protection and coastal restoration was endorsed and supported by the LRA.

- The CPRA has responsibility for developing a statewide plan for coastal protection.
- The legislation also gives the CPRA authority to ensure local levee boards comply fully with the statewide master plan.
- The CPRA has been closely monitoring the levee repair and planning activities of the Army Corps of Engineers.

Committee Members
 Rene Cross, Chair
 David Voelker, Vice Chair
 Boysie Bollinger
 Tim Coulon
 Laura Leach
 Walter Leger, Jr.
 Dr. Calvin Mackie

Note: Coastal Protection was initially named as a task force, but has now been replaced with a committee of board members who will work to coordinate with the newly created Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

COASTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE





ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

Long-Term Priorities

The following priorities were developed by the Recovery Team and LRA staff:

- Provide financial assistance for businesses
- Ensure that companies have access to qualified workers
- Revamp the state's tax structure and economy
- Develop a strategy to facilitate and support the startup and growth of companies
- Develop a strategy to help rural areas create quality jobs and increase wealth
- Develop new industries that take advantage of rebuilding efforts and regional resources and create high quality jobs
- Assistance for our proven, dominant industries -- to stabilize our economic base
- Improve business and investor confidence

Challenges

Challenges include obtaining financial assistance for companies before many go out of business; determining how to best deliver workforce training services; identifying ways to make Louisiana a better place to do business for existing and new companies, including a possible revamping of the state's tax structure.

Recovery Team Actions

Louisiana Economic Development has focused on assisting businesses impacted by the storms. Activities included a \$10 million Bridge Loan Program for small businesses administered by local banks; a dedicated web site (www.LEDforward.Louisiana.gov) to provide information to businesses; a professionally staffed call center to answer business owners' questions; and six business assistance centers to provide business owners with direct assistance. LED also worked to connect Louisiana businesses with opportunities related to rebuilding, including re-launching the accesslouisiana.com website for contractors. LED worked with FEMA to secure employee housing for companies to allow them to move back toward normal operations. LED also assisted with the Gulf Coast Reinvestment Forum and worked to pass legislation to help businesses.

The Louisiana Department of Labor (LDOL), in cooperation with the Department of Transportation & Development (DOTD), developed the LASwift program, to provide workers with daily, roundtrip transportation from Baton Rouge to New Orleans. LDOL also applied for and received a National Emergency Grant (NEG) for \$62.1 million for training, a \$3 million High Growth Training demonstration grant, and a Construction Trade Training Grant, with LDOL partnering with Louisiana Community & Technical College System on a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to recruit and train workers in construction trades; facilitated over 70 job fairs for evacuees statewide; and placed 10,087 Katrina and Rita affected individuals in jobs.

The Louisiana Department of Revenue staffed business and disaster centers; adopted IRS filing extensions; implemented 30-day extensions for sales taxes and 60-day extensions for other taxes due August 30th through September 30th; expedited tax refunds to businesses and expanded utilization of direct deposit for all refunds.

Task Force Members

- Matt Stuller – Chair
- Sibal Holt- Vice-Chair
- Rep. Charmaine Marchand
- Rep. Gil Pinac
- Rep. Jim Tucker
- Sen. Walter Boasso
- Sen. Willie Mount
- Sen. Ben Nevers
- Maura Donahue
- Barry Erwin
- Hardy Fowler
- John Freeman
- Jim Henderson
- Walter Leger, Jr.
- Roy Martin, III
- John Matessino
- David Mize
- Dan Packer
- Louis Reine
- David Voelker

Katrina & Rita Impacts

- 81,000 businesses in the 13 most impacted parishes
- More than 42,000 have re-opened
- Approximately 39,000 have yet to resume normal operations
- Approximately 20,000 have partially resumed operations
- Approximately 19,000 are not operating

LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT \$10M BRIDGE LOAN PROGRAM

- AMOUNT APPROVED: \$9,733,000
- LOANS DISBURSED: \$9,733,000
- APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: 560
- APPLICATIONS IN PROCESS: NA
- APPROVED LOANS FUNDED: 407

SOURCE: LED

SBA LOAN PROGRAM– BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOANS (LA ONLY)

- AMOUNT APPROVED: \$342,682,000
- LOANS DISBURSED: \$17,621,000
- APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: 27,121
- APPLICATIONS IN PROCESS: 13,160
- APPROVED LOANS: 4202

SOURCE: SBA AS OF 1/26

Long-Term Priorities

The LRA Education Task Force worked closely with the Bring New Orleans Back Commission's Education Committee to examine educational issues.

The following set of priorities was developed to address both PK-12 and post-secondary education in Louisiana:

PK-12 EDUCATION PRIORITY

- Develop a comprehensive, state-of-the-art education system to address the needs of all returning children that will be a model for reform, including: consulting with top education experts and think tanks on best practices for education delivery and facilities; attracting and retaining the best school leaders for administration and in the classroom; rigorous, comprehensive statewide curricula to maximize student achievement; and leading PK-12 education practices such as: 21st century technology throughout the school experience; universal access to early childhood education; and adequate funding for education to ensure that every child has access to an excellent education.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PRIORITIES

- Develop viable options to re-establish an improved postsecondary education system.
- Identify and provide incentives for displaced Louisiana college and university students to reenroll.
- Develop and evaluate a plan to handle future crises of this magnitude.

Challenges

The challenges within education fit into three categories:

PK-12 EDUCATION

- Developing a plan for public education in New Orleans.
- Rebuilding of schools/education in other parishes devastated by the hurricanes.
- Meeting needs of schools and districts that accepted students displaced by the hurricanes.

HIGHER EDUCATION

- Reinvention of post-secondary institutions.
- Return of students to post-secondary education.

PK-12 AND POST-SECONDARY FUNDING

- Provision of funding for needs not addressed by existing and new state/federal/corporate funds.

Recovery Team Actions

Louisiana Department of Education (PK-12 Education)

- LRA endorsed and supported the expansion of a Recovery School District to take over failing New Orleans schools.
- Enrolled 103,330 displaced students in schools.
- Helped displaced teachers and support workers find jobs.
- Established Hurricane School Personnel Employment and Information Center.
- Established Job Bank on web site with 94 districts/32 states posting job openings.

Board of Regents (Post-secondary Education)

- Changed enrollment procedures to immediately enroll approximately 16,480 displaced students from public and private post-secondary institutions.
- Provided housing for displaced students, families of displaced students, and emergency workers.
- Served as evacuee shelters, triage centers, and staging areas for Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita.
- LRA endorsed and supported expansion of a Recovery School District to take over failing New Orleans schools.

Task Force Members

Linda Johnson, Chair
 Rep. Joe Salter, Vice-Chair
 Rep. Carl Crane
 Rep. Jim Fannin
 Sen. Sharon Weston Broome
 Sen. J. Chris Ullo
 Dr. Scott S. Cowen
 Stephanie Desselles
 Dr. Norman Francis
 Louella Givens
 Dr. Calvin Mackie
 Brigitte Nieland
 Paul G. Pastorek
 Daisy Slan
 David Voelker
 Doris Voitier
 Mike Woods
 Dr. Mary Ella Sanders,
 ex-officio
 Laura Leach, ex-officio
 Susan Taylor, ex-officio

IMPACT OF HURRICANES ON PK – 12 EDUCATION

- 175,809 Total Displaced Students
- 103,330 Displaced In-state
- 69,574 (In-home District)
- 33,756 (Out of Home District)
- 72,479 Displaced Out-of-State
- 12,000 Displaced Teachers

KATRINA/RITA IMPACT ON POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

- 244,608 Total Enrollment Statewide
- 83,821 Total Displaced Students
- 12,740 Students Re-enrolled out-of-State.
- 16,480 Students Estimated Re-enrolled Within State.
- 1,500 Students Estimated Re-enrolled Utilizing Sloan Program.
- 53,100 Students Estimated Currently Unaccounted For.



ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE

ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE

Long-Term Priorities

The vision of the task force is to rebuild structures stronger, more energy and environmentally efficient to withstand future disasters. Priorities to reach this vision are:

- Restoration of wastewater services infrastructure;
- Removal and disposal of debris/waste in disaster areas;
- Clean-up of hazardous materials at non-operational sites;
- Development of communication strategy for distribution of environmental information;
- Development of safer, more efficient construction practices to reduce reliance on conventional energy sources, reducing air emissions;
- Restoration of impacted commercial and recreational fisheries infrastructures;
- Removal of vessels (e.g. debris, identifying ownership, salvage);
- Recovery of jurisdictional utilities to include restoration, rebuild and sustainability of wastewater services. Specifically, the PSC will be tasked with evaluating any requests by jurisdictional utilities for recovery through rates of hurricane-related expenses.

Challenges

- Funding continues to be a need to restore services and facilitate disposal.
- Removal of debris must be performed in the most efficient, environmentally sound manner; requires technical support and coordination with relevant local, state and federal agencies.
- The enormous amount of waste and large number of services that require repair/or restoration.
- The need for establishment of a code council (energy) of knowledgeable professionals to ensure proper construction of all structures going forward.
- Training will be needed on all code requirements, including the energy portion of the new statewide residential codes.
- For Wildlife and Fisheries, agency funding is primarily self-generated by user participation. Post storm participation is down in all sectors. Restoring and increasing participation is fundamental.
- Evaluation must be made regarding recovery through utility rates of costs related to Katrina and Rita.

Recovery Team Actions

Below are some of the accomplishments Recovery Teams have made toward addressing long-term issues:

- DEQ has submitted cost estimates for wastewater treatment and collection systems to the LRA in an effort to assist municipalities and others to restore wastewater treatment and collection systems;
- DEQ held a press conference on 12.09.05 announcing the results of an environmental assessment following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Results can be viewed at www.deq.louisiana.gov.
- DEQ continues to provide technical assistance regarding debris removal to affected parishes.
- DEQ has formed a strike team along with DOTD and FEMA to expedite process of removing and disposing of abandoned vehicles. A Request for Proposal is being developed to assist parishes.
- The EPA, DEQ and other governmental agencies are coordinating distribution of environmental information to displaced citizens. Providing information to those outside the state remains a challenge.
- DEQ continues to work with EPA, FEMA, and local governments to properly dispose of orphan containers, drums and household hazardous waste.
- The State Energy Office received a \$100,000 grant for energy efficiency and sustainable design practices.
- The State Energy Office is working with Tulane School of Architecture on long-term assistance.
- LWF is working with individuals, insurers, and government agencies on vessel recovery and removal.
- PSC continues to work with LDEQ, LDHH and other agencies to assist with restoration and rebuilding of wastewater infrastructure.
- The DNR administers the Home Energy Rebate Option and the Home Energy Loan Program for residents

Task Force Members

Tom Henning, Chair
 John T. Landry, Vice Chair
 Rep. Don Cravins, Jr.
 Rep. N. J. Damico
 Sen. Jody Amedee
 Sen. Clo Fontenot
 Bob Berkebile
 Mark Davis
 Tony "Ricky" Melerine
 John Pardue
 Dr. Sharon Parsons
 Jerome Ringo
 Kent Satterlee III
 Patrick Talley
 Robert Thomas
 Dr. Robert Twilley
 Maura Wood

DEBRIS REMOVAL QUICK FACTS

ESTIMATED TOTAL DEBRIS: 60.3M CUBIC YARDS (OVER 25 TIMES MORE DEBRIS THAN THE WORLD TRADE CENTER)

ESTIMATED DEBRIS REMOVED AS OF 1/30: 32.1M CUBIC YARDS (53%)

REMOVED DAILY: 126,900 CUBIC YARDS

294,417 OF AN ESTIMATED 500,000 WHITE GOODS HAVE BEEN REMOVED (59%)

OVER 11M LBS OF AN ESTIMATED 20M LBS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE HAS BEEN REMOVED (59%)

AN ESTIMATED 301,000 VEHICLES HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO BE REMOVED/DISPOSED.

FEMA UPDATE AS OF JANUARY 30, 2006

HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE



Long-Term Priorities

1. Develop comprehensive long-term housing recovery plan
2. Establish open and ongoing dialogue with short-term housing planners
3. Determine number of displaced residents likely to return
4. Determine areas that will not be redeveloped due to safety concerns
5. Determine available and habitable housing stock
6. Develop partnerships among national funders, federal, state and local agencies, non-profits and support organizations
7. Develop a comprehensive communications plan
8. Inventory and monitor Federal legislation creating or impeding the production of housing
9. Draft legislation to create a dedicated revenue source to fund the Louisiana Housing Trust Fund
10. Create Emergency Housing Preparedness Plan
11. Support strategy to ensure affordable homeowners and renters insurance
12. Create comprehensive database of all available housing stock in Louisiana that will be accessible to the public through the LHFA's website

Task Force Members

Walter Leger, Jr., Chair
 Sen. Diana Bajoie, Vice Chair
 Rep. Jean Doerge
 Rep. Cedric Richmond
 Rep. Monica Walker
 Terrel Broussard
 John Carpenter
 Tim Carpenter
 Shirley Collins
 Helena Cunningham
 Scarlett Duplechain
 Tara Hernandez
 Valerie Keller
 Randy Noel
 Henry Shane
 Charlotte Spencer Smith
 Jason Stagg
 Mtumishi St. Julien

Task Force and Recovery Team Actions

- The LRA and LHFA hosted a Legislative Housing Summit on January 31, 2006.
- The LRA and LHFA developed programming for CDBG for homeowner assistance, including the development of affordable housing in mixed income neighborhoods.
- Endorsed the Louisiana Receivership Act.
- The Housing & Redevelopment Task Force through its affiliation with the Louisiana Housing Finance Agency expedited \$11 million of a \$12 million allocation of Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) Funds. The grant was awarded through the Department of Health and Human Services.
- The Louisiana Housing Finance Agency (LHFA) secured a \$10,000 grant from Fannie Mae for creating a housing strategy for homeless and disabled persons.
- The Louisiana Housing Finance Agency funded a Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program (TBRA) through HOME funds. The TBRA Program provides temporary housing assistance payments (\$5 million available).
- LHFA's Board of Commissioners passed a resolution authorizing the use of \$ 3,000,000 of Agency HOME Administrative Fees for the development of programs to address housing needs in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- LHFA's Board of Commissioners amended the program description of the REHAB LA Program to specifically address the needs of the elderly and disabled in core disaster areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (\$2 million allocated).
- The LHFA Board authorized a reallocation of existing credits to GO Zone credits. The shift will free up credits in the State's regular allocation for projects in non GO Zone areas.

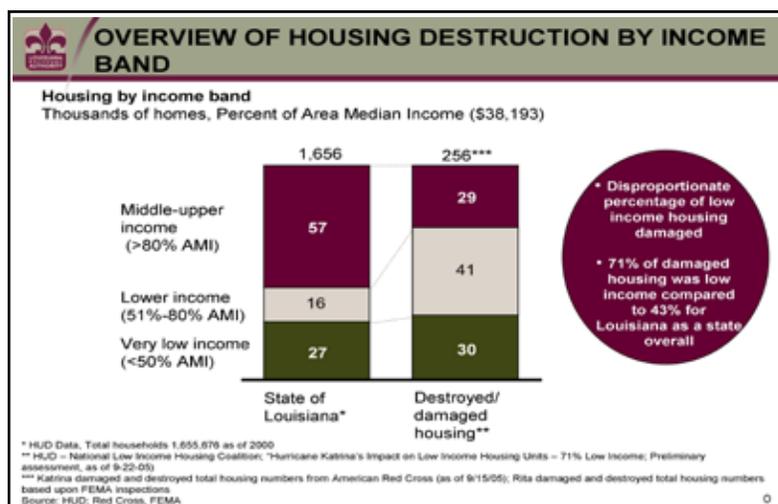
LOUISIANA HOUSING IMPACT SUMMARY

TOTAL HOUSING UNITS 1,847,181

UNITS FLOODED BY KATRINA AND RITA 303,856 (16%)

ESTIMATED VALUE OF FLOODED UNITS \$32,342,404,298

SOURCE: GCR & ASSOC., INC. LA HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY



HUMAN SERVICES TASK FORCE

Long-Term Priorities

The Human Service task force will focus its efforts on the substantive programs within the Departments of Social Services, Health and Hospitals and the Office of Youth Development. The priorities are as follows:

- Coordinate and integrate service delivery for improved outcomes for Louisiana citizens
- Challenge state departments to coordinate complimentary services, applications for services, and work toward common outcomes for citizens
- Reduce poverty in Louisiana through investments in human capital
- Continue to implement a comprehensive approach to improving the well being of Louisiana's children
- Plan and coordinate outreach with Louisiana Family Recovery Corps
- Maximize use of technology to encourage mobile workers, shared applications, structured decisions, and reduced duplication

Challenges

Strategic decisions and evidence-based planning must be addressed in the requisite sense of urgency to meet the needs of Louisiana's displaced citizenry. This urgency is based on the complex and immediate human service needs facing families and children impacted by the storms. Challenges in the Human Services area are:

- Propelling the new and compounded problems facing Katrina and Rita impacted families and children to the forefront of the recovery process;
- Anticipating the emergent human and social needs in South Louisiana; and
- Implementing an integrated human and social service delivery system while simultaneously facing a state budget crisis.

Recovery Team Actions

Following both Katrina and Rita, these departments quickly responded to newly emergent needs and adapted to the challenges in serving traditional clients.

- DSS activated the largest disaster food stamp program in the history of the state.
- OYD successfully evacuated youth from Orleans Parish detention centers and reunited many with family in other states.
- DHH provided individual crisis counseling services, group crisis counseling services, education services and referrals to Katrina and Rita victims.
- DSS hastened the implementation of electronic disbursement of funds for child support and foster care payments. Prior to storms, these funds were distributed via paper checks.
- DSS Office of Family Support funded the Family Recovery Corps with \$32 million in TANF funds.
- DSS partnered with child welfare systems in other states to assist and work with foster families located out of state.
- DSS managed 8 Special Needs Shelters.
- To date, DSS field staff has met with more than 650 families and more than 1,560 individuals in 41 housing sites.
- To date, OMH/DHH has received approximately \$11 million in grants from FEMA for crisis counseling services related to Katrina.

Task Force Members

Dr. Calvin Mackie, Chair
 Rep. Yvonne Dorsey, Vice Chair
 Rep. Nita Rusich Hutter
 Sen. Lydia Jackson Edith Jones
 Sen. Julie Quinn
 Dr. Robert W. Brown
 Judge Lilynn Cutrer
 Randy Ewing
 Julio Galan
 Lynda Gavioli
 Judge Ernestine Gray
 Geoff Nagle
 Chris Nichols
 Rubye Noble



INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE



Long-Term Priorities

The long-term priorities adopted by the task force were identified by the Infrastructure and Transportation Recovery Team, with members from Department of Natural Resources, Department of Transportation and Development, and the Public Service Commission, prior to the first task force meeting. When the Task Force was formed, these priorities were adopted. The priorities are as follows:

- Repair and prioritization of upgrades to hurricane flood protection system, including support for integration of hurricane protection and coastal restoration
- Expedient re-construction of our communities' homes, businesses, and industries
- Improved development of policies to mitigate future hurricane impacts on all coastal resources
- Repair and prioritization of all hurricane damaged public port infrastructure
- Restoration of transportation and utility systems, enhancing evacuation capabilities, and facilitating economic recovery
- Assisting oil, gas and pipeline industry restoration and recovery efforts

Challenges

Specific challenges were identified that are directly related to the long-term priorities:

- Lack of adequate planning, lack of definitive methodologies for identifying at-risk water supplies
- Funding, permits, code restrictions
- Insurance issues related to existing claims as well as possible alterations to the Base Flood Elevations
- Insurability in flood prone areas
- Reconstruction of levee systems will probably not allow for expeditious reconstruction in flood prone areas
- Staffing problems in parishes
- All reconstruction efforts will need to be reviewed, permitted, and inspected during the recovery process
- Federal Authorization and Appropriation

Recovery Team Actions

Department of Transportation and Development, Department of Natural Resources, Public Service Commission
The following are actions that have been completed by the agencies since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

DOTD

- I-10 Twin Spans opened to traffic Friday, January 6, 2006, ahead of schedule.
- Levees Repaired: 125 of 169 miles
- Port of New Orleans activity – 65% of pre-hurricane level

DNR

- Two projects have been developed for use of hurricane debris for wetland restoration projects. The two projects are at Rockefeller Refuge and Port Fourchon.
- 61.1% of the crude oil production and 72.6% of the natural gas production has now been restored.

Public Service Commission

- Coordinated the restoration of approximately 1.5 million total electric service outages and approximately half a million total telecommunications service outages in Louisiana following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- Prompted the Federal Communications Commission to adopt a program to provide an estimated \$211 million from the Federal Universal Service Fund to reimburse wireless telephone service providers that provided at least 300 free minutes and a free handset to victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Task Force Members

John T. Landry , Chair
Tom Henning, Vice Chair
Rep. Gordon E. Dove Sr.
Rep. Roy Quezaine
Sen. Noble E. Ellington
Sen. Robert W. "Bob" Kostelka
Dwight Brashear
Walter R. Brooks
Ted Falgout
Anthony Guarisco
Tina Horn
Thomas L. Jackson
Gary LaGrange
Jim Prince
Randy Roach
Tom Sammons
Roy Williams
Larry Wilmer

Long-Term Priorities

The LRA Public Health and Health Care Task Force worked closely with the Bring New Orleans Back Commission's Health and Social Services Committee to examine health care issues. In addition to addressing the short-term recovery needs of the State of Louisiana and those areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Public Health & Healthcare (PHHC) Task Force has also accepted the challenge of considering specific long-term components of the State's healthcare infrastructure.

These additional components, or priority areas, are as follows:

- Redesign of a Sustainable System of Health Care
- Healthcare Workforce & Medical Education
- Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Planning

Task Force Members

Mary Ella Sanders, M.D., Chair	Gery J. Barry
Sen. Donald E. Hines, M.D. Vice Chair	Keith F. DeSonier, M.D.
Sen. Diana E. Bajoie	Ron Goux
Sen. Joe McPherson	Leslie D. Hirsch
Rep. Sydnie Mae Durand	Larry Hollier, M.D.
Rep. Cheryl A. Gray	Lester Wayne Johnson, M.D.
Rep. Ronnie Johns	Susan E. Nelson, M.D., FACP
Rep. Charmaine L. Marchand	Don Smithburg
Tonia Aiken	John Spain
Michael A. Andry	Kevin U. Stephens, Sr., M.D., J.D.
Kyle Ardoin	Paul K. Whelton, M.D., M.Sc

Challenges

The most pressing challenge of the PHHC task force is the effort to balance the urgency of finding short-term resolutions to the delivery of quality health care while maintaining the flexibility to establishing a sustainable health care infrastructure for the long term. From these two considerations, the PHHC task force has compiled the following list of major challenges:

- Implementing a statewide health care information exchange network and establish a core medical record and optional health record that provides timely access to clinical information to improve care delivery, patient safety, and public health
- Defining the future of the public hospital system and its role in the delivery of health care.
- Developing a strategy for the immediate recovery of displaced workers and long-term retention of an effective workforce aligned with changing demand.
- Defining a viable medical and post-graduate medical education system that reflects the needs of the residents of the State of Louisiana.
- Developing an integrated framework for disaster planning and emergency preparedness of the health care system that links operational standards with resilience requirements.

Recovery Team Actions

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

- Special Needs Shelters – staffed and coordinated 7 shelters; served 13,000 people in shelters; and triaged 70,000 persons in Regions 2 and 3.
- Vaccines – administered 5,064 childhood vaccine doses to children in shelters; 25,000 influenza vaccines for adults in shelters; and 115,000 tetanus vaccines for emergency workers.
- Access to Prescriptions – worked with retail pharmacies statewide on emergency prescription needs; established a central depository warehouse; and dispensed pharmaceuticals for evacuees in shelters.
- Health Care Technology – expanded the department's infectious disease surveillance reporting system; established KatrinaHealth.org for prescription drug/allergy information on evacuees treated in shelters; and with support from the Office of the National Center for Health Information Technology are currently building a platform for inter-operability among health care providers to support implementation of electronic medical record sharing.



III. LEADING LONG-TERM COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING EFFORTS

In an effort to support the LRA vision for leading long-term community planning, the LRA is coordinating the Louisiana Speaks planning effort. Louisiana Speaks is a multifaceted planning process, endorsed by the Louisiana Recovery Authority, to develop a sustainable, long-term vision for South Louisiana in the wake of the destruction caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. This community planning process will:

- Support a deliberate and democratic process that relies on active participation,
- Empower local communities to develop plans that meet individual needs,
- Establish priorities at the local level to guide decisions,
- Support communities with the best national planning experts working in partnership with local architects, planners, and engineers, and
- Provide user-friendly interface to enable development of individual plans.

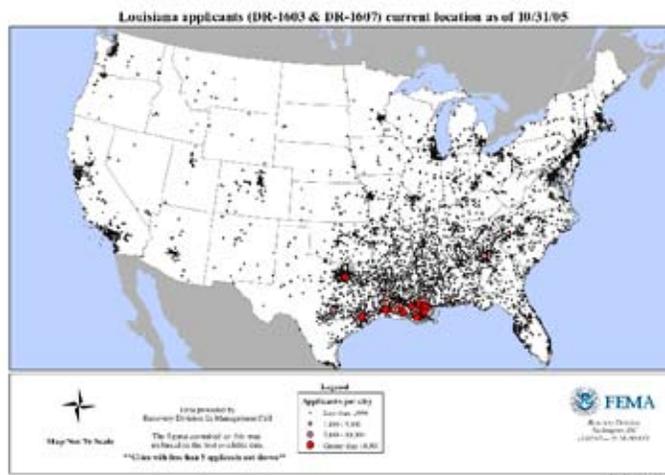
The LRA is committed to a long term planning process that is true to the aspirations of local communities whenever possible. To that end, the LRA Board received presentations of findings prepared for the Land Use Subcommittee of the Bring New Orleans Back Commission at both the December and January Board meetings. The LRA will be traveling to Lake Charles for the February 2006 board meeting and will receive input from community leaders on long term planning in Southwest Louisiana.

The goal of the long-term community planning process is to develop a comprehensive plan that integrates both parish plans (coordinated with the support of FEMA technical assistance) and regional recovery plans. Building on the AIA/APA principles for rebuilding and the LRA's principle of safer, stronger, smarter, this process includes four components:

- A. Engagement of Key Stakeholder Groups to Ensure Equity
- B. Implementation of Parish Level Recovery Planning
- C. Implementation of Regional Planning Process
- D. Integration of Parish, Regional and Statewide Planning Processes

Task Force Members

Donna Fraiche, Chair
 Rod West, Vice Chair
 Rep. Damon Baldone
 Rep. Bryant Hammet
 Sen. Ann Duplessis
 Sen. Ed Murray
 V.J. Dauterive
 Melissa Flournoy
 Lucinda Flowers
 Chester Hartman
 Walter Leger
 Rebekke Raines
 Trula Remson
 David T. Riggins



A. Engagement of Key Stakeholder Groups to Ensure Equity

More than one million Gulf Coast residents have been displaced across the country by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. This dispersal has caused a communications gap that has hampered efforts to reconnect residents with their families, friends and communities, which has led to a growing concern that the voices of the most vulnerable families and residents will not be heard as government and corporate developers initiate plans for redevelopment in the devastated areas.

PolicyLink, a national think tank, through the generous support of the Living Cities National Community Development Initiative, was engaged to provide strategic advice on setting the equity agenda to guide the rebuilding. PolicyLink has developed a set of principles to ensure an equitable recovery and rebuilding process (see www.policylink.org). In order to ensure that all residents are given the opportunity to participate in the rebuilding process, a team led by the Louisiana Recovery Authority, the Louisiana Family Recovery Corps, the Greater New Orleans Knowledge Works and PolicyLink worked to develop a vision for a dynamic communications platform that utilizes both online and offline tactics. This system would serve the four key constituencies involved in the rebuilding process:

1. Displaced Residents
2. Government
3. Community-Based Organizations
4. Business and Industry



PolicyLink, working with the LRA brought together a diverse group including private-sector technology firms and nonprofit technology intermediaries, and grassroots organizations to create the most advanced Internet communications mechanism to conduct outreach, solicit input and guidance, and shape policy. The electronic portal, which can be found at www.louisianarebuilds.info, will provide a single point of contact for both online and offline communications activities associated with recovery efforts. Finally, it will be combined with a robust off-line communications strategy designed to reach citizens that are not familiar with or do not have access to the Internet.



B. Implementation of Parish Level Recovery Planning

The LRA collaborated with planners from FEMA to develop a parish level planning process to address numerous recovery issues pertinent to the long-term recovery of severely damaged parishes. A total of 26 parishes throughout Louisiana were identified to participate in this planning process, which runs from November 2005 through March 2006.

Louisiana Recovery Planning Day was an important part of the parish level planning process. On January 21, 2006, which was proclaimed Louisiana Recovery Planning Day by Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) and FEMA's Long-Term Community Recovery (LTCR) team hosted a series of open houses to provide Louisianians with an opportunity to express their needs and to help define a community-based vision for Louisiana's recovery. The purpose of the day was to gather specific ideas and preferences from Louisianians about how they felt their communities and state should be rebuilt. More than 3,000 citizens participated in 30 open houses held throughout Louisiana, Georgia, Tennessee and Texas. Key findings from Louisiana Recovery Planning Day are captured in the table below.

1	Building better levees	19%
2	Encouraging development	11%
3	Restoring coastal areas	10%
4	Attracting new businesses	9%
5	Improving the schools	9%
6	Creating reconstruction jobs	8%
7	Providing better community/social services	7%
8	Reducing crime	5%
9	Making highway/street improvements	5%
10	Protecting the environment	4%
11	Devising a workable execution plan	4%
12	Providing a better public transportation system	3%
13	Buying out flood-prone properties	3%
14	Supporting the arts and culture	2%
15	Creating more parks	1%

Louisiana Recovery Planning Day served as one of several opportunities for Louisiana citizens and community organizations to have an impact on the recovery planning effort for their parishes. The information collected at these open houses will be used to identify common themes that will be incorporated into the recovery planning process. The parish level planning process will result in the development of initial parish recovery plans, which will be used to set funding priorities for the recovery effort. The final plans will include a community baseline, a needs assessment, a recovery strategy including principles, vision, goals, a set of high value recovery projects and a strategic recovery timeline. The final section will describe opportunities for the integration of the local plan with regional and statewide plans. The section will also include an inventory of local resources, government structures and describe the level of technical expertise needed to implement the plan.

Parishes throughout South Louisiana experienced various levels of destruction from the storms, and these same parishes have varying levels of capacity to plan for their rebuilding. These two factors have led to multiple levels of assistance for parishes, which are described below.

Multi-Sector Support Parishes:

- Parish technical assistance teams
- Storefront offices staffed by subject matter experts
- Parishes include: St. Tammany, Orleans, St. Bernard, Jefferson, Plaquemines, Lafourche, Vermilion, Calcasieu, and Cameron

Targeted Support Parishes:

- Targeted subject matter assistance
- Parishes include: Vernon, Beauregard, Allen, Jefferson Davis, Iberia, St. Mary, St. Charles, Tangipahoa, and Washington

Technical Advisor/Workshop/Self Help Guide Parishes:

- Workshop to explain the FEMA Self-Help Guide for parish planning
- Technical advisor for issues as needed
- Parishes include: Sabine, Acadia, Lafayette, St. Martin, Terrebonne, Assumption, St. James, and St. John the Baptist

C. Implementation of Regional Planning Process

Calthorpe Associates was selected to lead a team of planning experts from Louisiana and around the world including Duany, Plater-Zyberk, & Co. and Urban Design Associates. Their goal is to implement a three-track approach to regional planning including: local design charrettes; the development of planning and architectural standards and tools; and a long-term regional vision. These three tracks will support the short-term needs of local parishes and jurisdictions, the mid-term need for progressive planning tools, and the long-term need to develop a comprehensive and holistic vision for future development in South Louisiana.

By laying out each parish's vision for long-term recovery as well as pointing out opportunities for the integration of the local plan with regional and statewide plans, the parish recovery plans will form a baseline for the regional vision. Issues, priorities and strategies of regional scale and significance identified in the parish planning process will be specifically addressed at the broader regional level, and a set of regional plans will be designed based on scenarios illustrating the potential impact of the implementation of various alternatives. The various alternatives will be developed and evaluated with regional collaboration, input and feedback.

“...THE SELECTION OF A PLANNING TEAM ITSELF SIGNALS A MAJOR CHANGE HERE--AN EMBRACE OF RATIONAL, LONG-RANGE, COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AS A LEGITIMATE MODE OF DEALING WITH GROWTH AND CHANGE.” -- BATON ROUGE REAL ESTATE WEEKLY, JANUARY 2006.



D. Integration of Parish, Regional and Statewide Planning Processes

The LRA goal to lead long-term community and regional planning efforts will require a significant amount of coordination. The parish level planning process is well underway, and the plans developed through this process will serve as a starting point for the regional planning process. Concurrent with the timeline for the development of the parish recovery strategies, the LRA task forces will identify the top statewide priorities for their issue areas and develop strategies for addressing each. The identification of statewide priorities will be coordinated with and informed by the parish-based recovery planning process. The community driven planning process will be integrated with the task force planning process by coordinating the following:

- Attendance at LRA Task Force meetings and community meetings
- Task Force receipt of reports produced through the community planning process
- Transmittance of LRA quarterly and task force reports to the communities
- Regular report to the communities on the future direction that the state will take on key policy areas such as education, health care, housing and others.

IV. ENSURING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

One of the principal functions of the LRA is to ensure the highest standards of integrity for all activities associated with the recovery and rebuilding of Louisiana. To support this, an Audit Committee was established to ensure best practices and procedures in the management of any funds received, expended, or disbursed by the LRA. The membership of the audit committee includes three LRA board members as well as a representative from both the Public Affairs Research Council and the Council for a Better Louisiana.

Audit Committee

Virgil Robinson, Jr., Chair
James Davison, Vice Chair
Jim Brandt
Barry Erwin
Mike Woods

As Louisiana moves to recover and rebuild in response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita, there will be millions of dollars of contracts for cleanup, demolition, and construction awarded in Louisiana. Many of these contracts may be disbursed through time-and-materials contracts rather than on a pre-negotiated fixed price, which increases the risk of fraud. In an effort to eliminate fraud and abuse, the LRA has urged that the state implement a strategy for the use of Independent Private Sector Inspectors General for certain construction contracts with the state.

Additionally, Deloitte & Touche, LLP, one of the big four accounting firms, was selected by the State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, to provide accounting and forensic services in Louisiana’s receipt and disbursement of FEMA recovery funds. The firm of UHY, LLP, a nationally licensed firm, was selected to perform an independent examination level assessment of the State’s internal controls, processes and procedures over the receipt and disbursement of FEMA Disaster Recovery funds, as well as additional assistance in the area of fraud detection, investigation, and mitigation. Contracts setting out the specific services to be provided by each are being developed. The LRA audit committee will receive any and all reports produced by the accounting firms engaged by the state, and shall present the reports’ findings to the full Board.

Finally, the LRA has worked to ensure complete transparency of operations by fully complying with the Open Meetings Law for all board and task force meetings and by posting all relevant information on the website, www.lra.louisiana.gov, including meeting agendas, minutes, presentations, press releases, and data figures.

Appendix 1

LRA Quarterly Report



Addressing the Challenges of
Recovery & Rebuilding
from Hurricanes Katrina & Rita

Overview of comparative damage
from Hurricane Katrina & Rita
December 19, 2005



OVERVIEW OF RELATIVE DAMAGE

- **Damage to Gulf Coast from Katrina and Rita dwarfed those of other US disasters**
 - \$37B in estimated FEMA cost in Louisiana alone -- \$8,244 per capita (19x per capita cost of 9/11 World Trade Center disaster)
 - \$40B in insured losses for Katrina (\$5B for Rita) – Katrina 7X greater than average for top 10 hurricanes
 - 275,000 homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina alone, ten times those destroyed by next most destructive US Hurricane (Andrew)
- **Among Gulf Coast states, Louisiana suffered a disproportionate share of the destruction**
 - **People:**
 - 650,000 people displaced from their homes by Katrina alone (6x more than any other state impacted by Katrina)
 - Increase of 240k unemployed people (5x that experienced in Mississippi)
 - At least 1,071 died (5x any other state) not including possible deaths from more than 6,000 missing
 - **Facilities:**
 - Homes: +217k destroyed (3x any other state)
 - Schools: 875 damaged by Katrina alone (3x any other state); 40 destroyed (2.5 any other state)
 - Hospitals: 2,600 hospital beds remaining offline (33x any other state); 10 hospitals closed (vs. 2 mobile health centers destroyed in MS)
 - Businesses: 18,750 destroyed (10x any other state)
 - **Estimated damages:**
 - \$25B in insured losses (3x any other state)
 - \$39B in flood and storm surge damage (9x any other state)

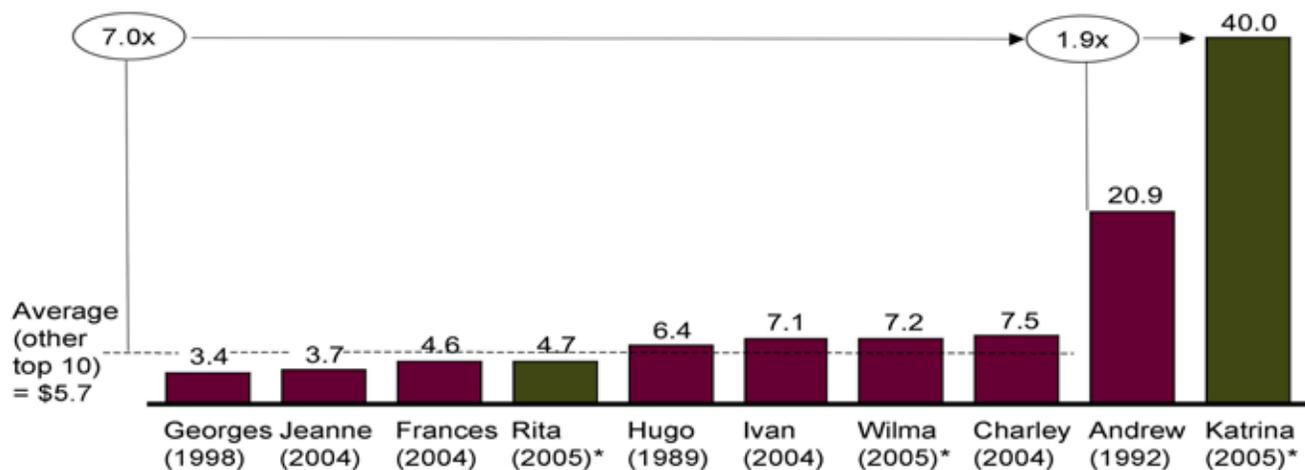
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DAMAGE ESTIMATES FOR KATRINA DWARF THOSE OF MOST COSTLY HURRICANES TO HIT US SHORES

Insured losses for 10 costliest US Hurricanes (2004\$)

\$ Billions



* Estimated as of October 14, 2005; November 1, 2005 for Wilma

Source: ISO/PCS; Insurance Information Institute

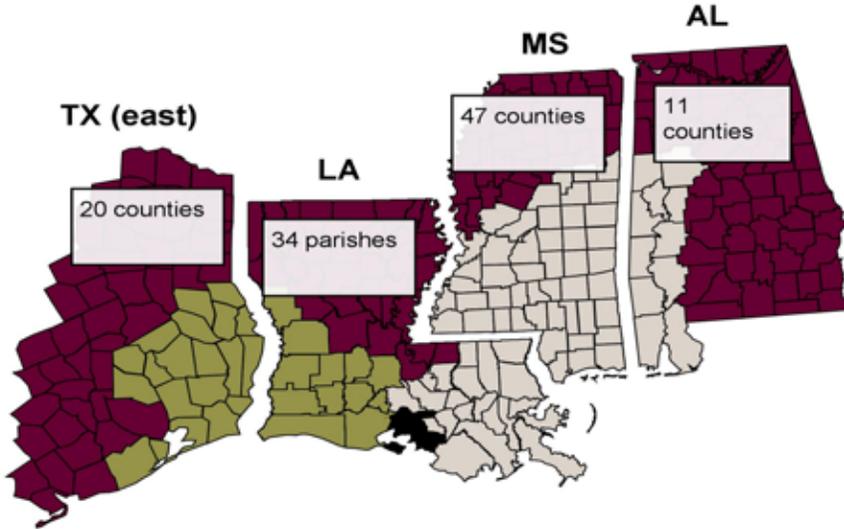
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FEMA DESIGNATIONS MASK THE CONCENTRATION OF DAMAGE IN LOUISIANA, SELECTED COUNTIES

Significantly affected parishes/counties (FEMA)
Parishes/counties receiving all categories of public and individual assistance

□ Katrina
■ Rita
■ Both



Highest level of FEMA disaster designations don't distinguish between parishes with severe (Orleans) and limited damage (East Baton Rouge)

Source: FEMA, 2000 Census

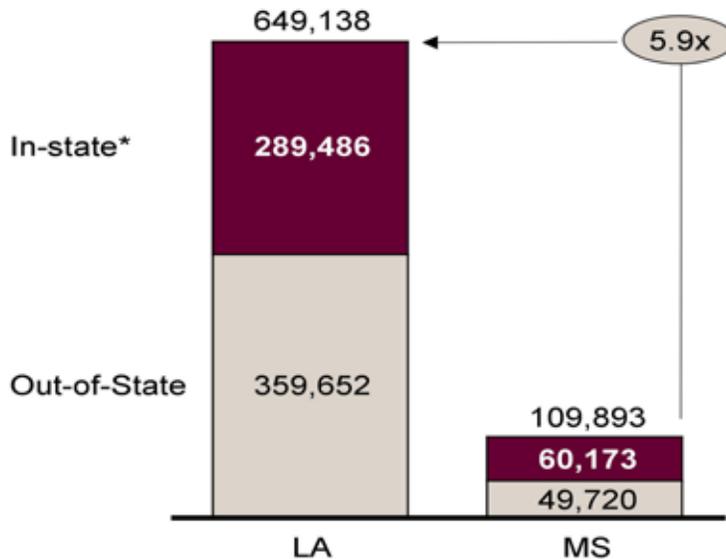
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NEARLY 6 TIMES AS MANY LOUISIANA RESIDENTS REMAIN DISPLACED AFTER KATRINA THAN MISSISSIPPI RESIDENTS

People displaced from homes by Hurricane Katrina
people who have not returned to their pre-storm address

KATRINA ONLY



* In-state displaced are measured as FEMA applicants which have not returned to their pre-Katrina address; an estimated 410,000 residents in Louisiana and 390,000 in Mississippi have returned to their pre-Katrina address

Source: FEMA; Louisiana Housing Task Force

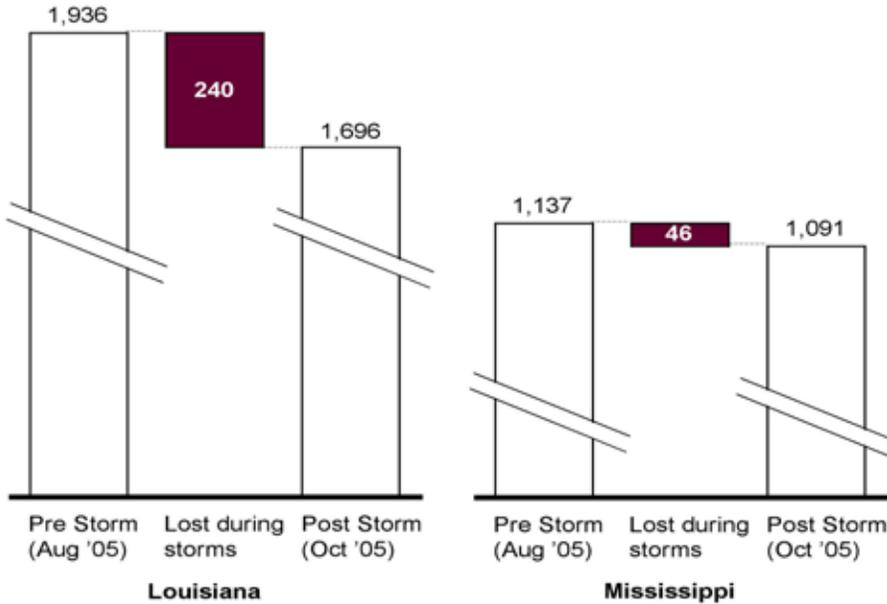
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MORE THAN 5x AS MANY LOUISIANANS WERE TAKEN FROM WORK THAN MISSISSIPPIANS

Number of residents employed (Thousands)

□ Employment counts
■ Increased unemployment



Louisiana had 5x the increase in unemployment (240k vs. 46k) experienced in Mississippi

350K applications for unemployment insurance in 3 months following storm – 2x applications for all of 2004

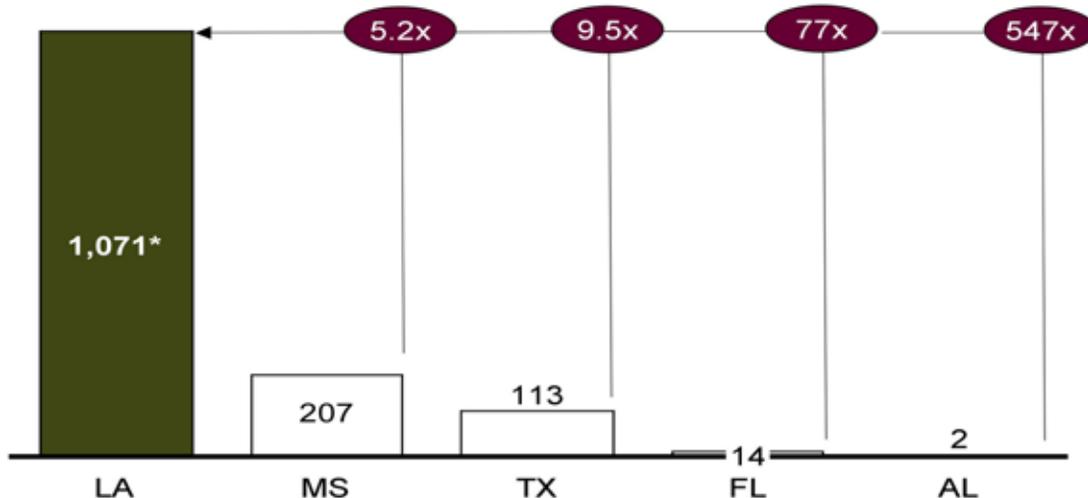
Source: The Brookings Institution, Katrina Index (Dec 2005)



NEARLY 5x AS MANY LOUISIANANS WERE KILLED BY STORMS THAN ANY OTHER STATE'S CITIZENS

State reported deaths from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
Identified and unidentified victims (12/13/05)

Doesn't account for 3,700 people still missing



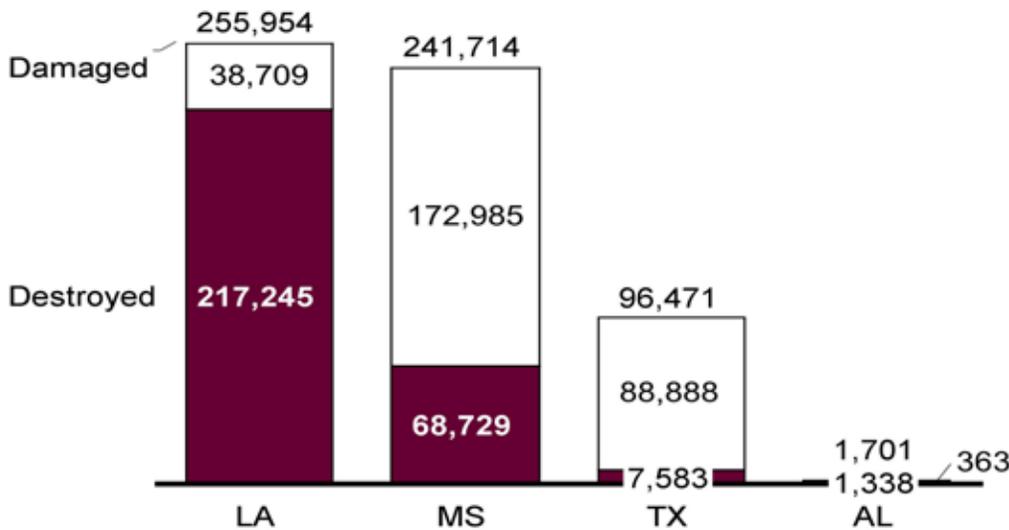
* 1,094 less 23 non-storm related deaths

Source: Louisiana Department of Health and Human Services, ABC News



LOUISIANA HAD 3x AS MANY HOMES DESTROYED BY KATRINA AND RITA AS ANY OTHER STATE

Housing Units Destroyed and Damaged by Katrina and Rita



- Louisiana had far more homes destroyed by Katrina than neighboring states
 - 3.0x Mississippi
 - 565x Alabama
- Over 85% of Louisiana's affected properties are estimated to be destroyed

Source: Katrina numbers from American Red Cross (as of 9/15/05); Rita numbers based upon FEMA inspections (Louisiana) and Texas Department of Public Safety

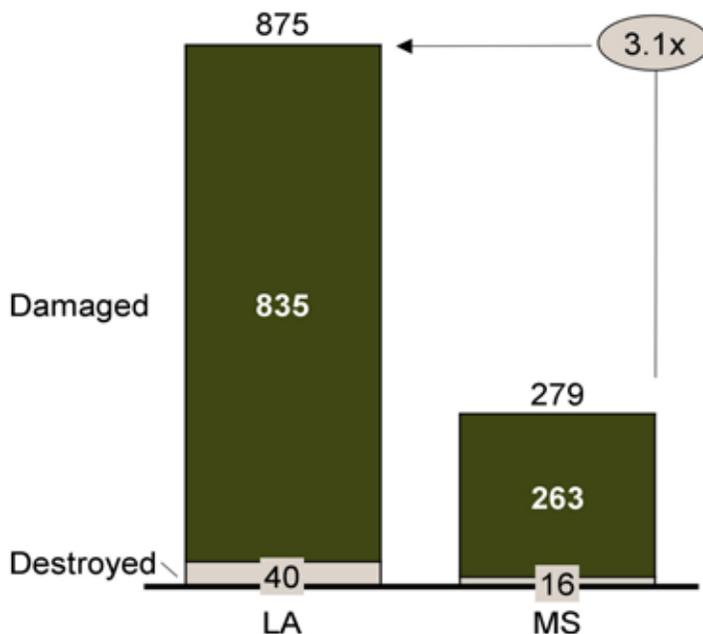
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LOUISIANA'S STUDENTS LOST 2.5x AS MANY SCHOOLS AND HAD MORE THAN 3x AS MANY DAMAGED BY KATRINA

Schools damaged by Hurricane Katrina

KATRINA ONLY



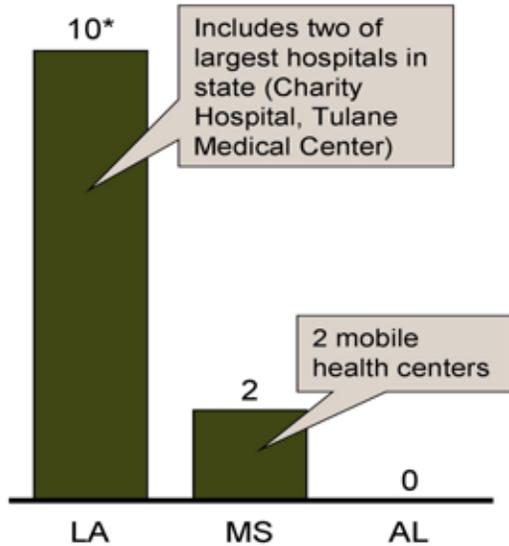
Source: Louisiana Department of Education; Mississippi Department of Education

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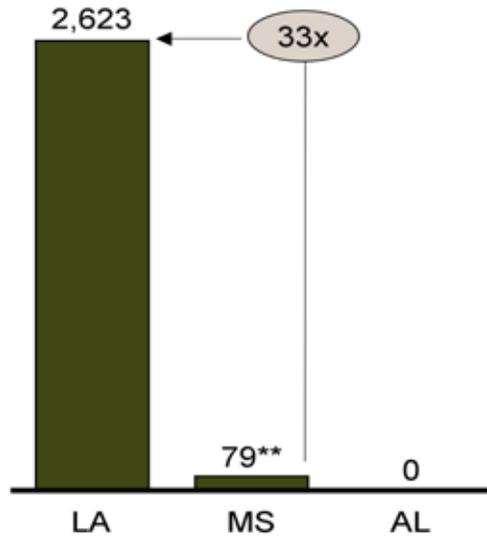


LOUISIANA SUFFERED MORE THAN 30 TIMES THE LOSSES TO MEDICAL INFRASTRUCTURE LOST BY ITS NEIGHBORS

Facilities remaining closed (as of 12/21/05)
Hospitals and mobile health centers



Capacity off-line
Beds closed in affected facilities



* 3 facilities have announced they will not be re-opened; others assessing repair options

** 79 of 104 beds at Hancock Hospital in Bay St. Louis; no beds associated with two mobile health centers

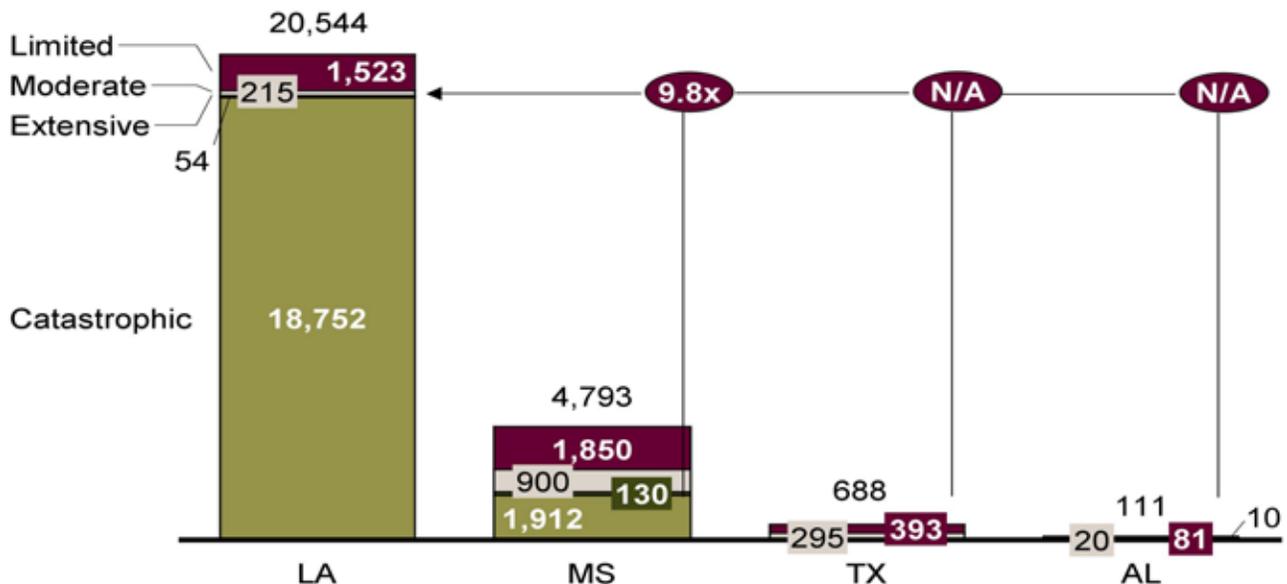
Source: Louisiana Hospital Association; Health Resources Services Administration; Mississippi Hospital Association

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TEN TIMES AS MANY BUSINESSES WERE DESTROYED IN LOUISIANA THAN IN ANY OTHER STATE

Total businesses affected by Katrina or Rita



Source: Census website; Census approximations based upon FEMA affected areas

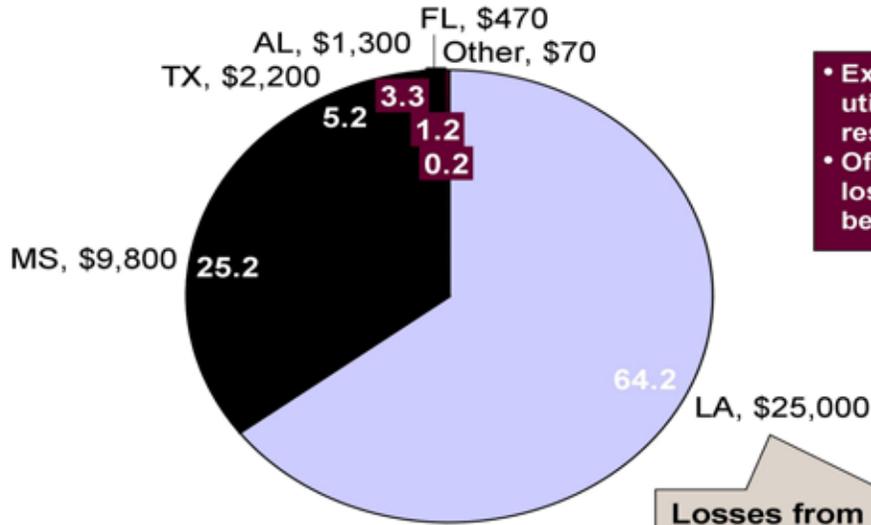
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LOUISIANA ACCOUNTED FOR MORE THAN 60% OF COMBINED INSURANCE LOSSES FROM KATRINA & RITA

Insured loss distribution by state*
\$ Millions; percent

NON-FLOOD
DAMAGES



- Excludes agriculture, utilities, public, or oil resources
- Offshore oil/energy losses estimated between \$3 and \$9B

Losses from Louisiana are ...

- 53.2x losses from Florida
- 19.2x Alabama
- 11.4x Texas
- 2.5x Mississippi

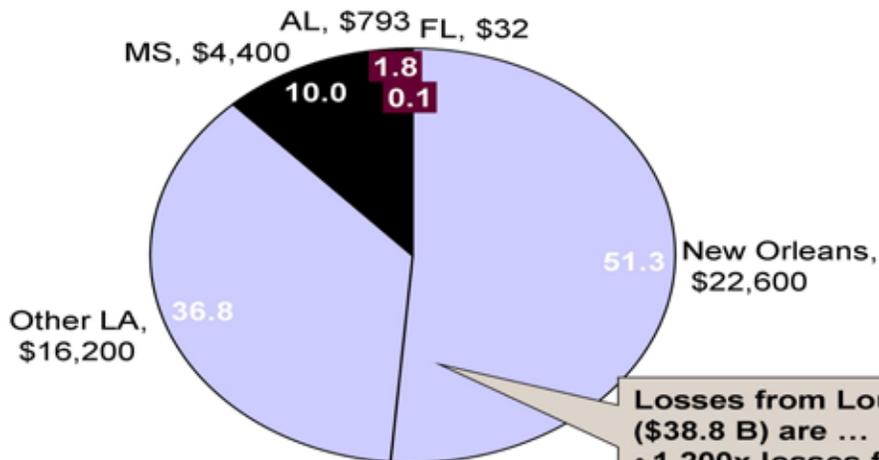
* As of October 4, 2005

Source: PCS division of ISO; RMS, Tillinghast, Insurance Information Institute



NEARLY 90% OF KATRINA'S FLOOD AND STORM SURGE DAMAGE OCCURRED IN LOUISIANA (50% IN NEW ORLEANS)

Property damage from Hurricane Katrina flood and storm surge*
\$ Millions; percent



Losses from Louisiana (\$38.8 B) are ...

- 1,200x losses from Florida
- 49x Alabama
- 9x Mississippi

* Value of property damage by flood and storm surge whether or not insured

Source: AIR Worldwide, September 29, 2005; Insurance Information Institute